NEBRASKA IN THE LEAD

Stands at Top of List in Number of Men Sent to War, Population Considered.—Omaha Has Record.

Figures compiled by the Omaha Chamber of Commerce show that Nebraska has more soldiers and sailors in the service of the country in proportion to population, than any other state. Nebraska has sent 41,000 drafted and enlisted men to the war. This number does not include the many young men who enlisted with the Canadian troops, of which no estimate can be made. Omaha leads all cities in per capita Red Cross membership and war sevings stamps sales, and stands second of all the large cities in the country for army enlistments in proportion to population.

Uncle Sam has come to the aid of the rancher in the effort to rehabilitate the cattle and sheep business of the west by offering loans of government money for the purchase of stock. This measure has been inaugurated by the War Finance corporation, which has established an agency in Omaha to care for the Nebraska and Wyoming district. Application for loans should be made to William J. Coad, chairman, Federal Reserve bank, Omaha.

The people of Nebraska last Monday declared a holiday to celebrate the signing of the allied armistice term. Celebrations in many cities of the state began shortly after news of the war's end had been received, and continued all day. Business generally was suspended, while thousands participated in parades and other patriotic celebrations.

Aurora's two new school buildings are rapidly approaching completion. It is hoped by the school board to have these buildings ready for occupancy by January 1. They are the most modern, up to date and convenient school buildings in the state, in the opinion of the board.

A campaign against pocket gophers has been launched in Dodge county by County Agent L. C. Christie and Prof. J. W. Dawson of the agricultural college of Lincoln. It is planned to hold meetings in every township in the country to instruct farmers in the methods of killing the pests.

Word has reached State Food Administrator Wattles at Omaha that all activities of the food administration will be continued throughout the armistice period, and that there will be no relaxation of efforts to keep down profiteering to the last moment.

That school teachers are not legally entitled to draw salary during the period lost because the schools were closed for the influenza, and that boards of education have no authority to allow pay for that time, is the ruling of Attorney General Reed.

The war department's announcement cancelling army draft calls for November stopped a contingent of men from Omaha at Fremont. The men were enroute to Camp Kearcny, Cal., and were sent back to Omaha, a disappointed crowd.

E. O. Lewis of Falls City, a member of the republican state central committee, is an applicant for a place on the board of control. Mr. Lewis desires to succeed Henry Gerdes, who retires next March, after having served six years.

James A. Axtell, of Fairbury, reelected representative Thirty-second Nebraska district, has announced himself candidate for speaker of the house to succeed Jackson of Nuckolls county, who failed to land his seat at the recent election.

Immediate dropping of food prices as a result of the conclusion of the armistice cannot be expected, heads of the food administration say. It has been stated that while the price of some foodstuffs will decrease, others will increase.

The board of health at Norfolk ordered out the home guard to patrol business streets, in order to keep the public from congregating in an effort to stamp out the influenza epidemic.

The Prairie Oil and Gas company, drilling south of Superior, are now down over 2,000 feet and report fine prospects.

It is reported that the Nebraska Cement company, near Riverton, is going to prospect for potash or oil.

Reports published by railroad experts state that Nebraska soil is in better condition for the thriving of winter wheat than in the history of the state. The recent soaking rains have reached every inch of Nebraska soil and did the business, they claim.

Polish people of Nebraska are making a drive for $120,000 to be raised in one month. This is Nebraska's allotment in the drive for a $10,000,000 Polish fund for the Polish army in France and reconstruction work in re-established Poland after the war.

The state convention of the woman suffrage association will be held in Lincoln November 20-22. The big question to be considered by the suffragists will be the present suit against the anti-suffragists to keep the referendum off the ballot.

The general store and postoffice at Watertown, Buffalo county, were burned to the ground the other day. Origin of the fire is unknown. Loss will reach about $15,000. It was the only store in Watertown and the citizens are suffering considerable inconvenience as a result of the loss.

A raise in freight rates, amounting to about 80 per cent on an average, is proposed by Secretary W. G. McAdoo in a communication sent to the state railway commission. Mr. McAdoo is of the opinion that there should be a more uniform rate in sections where conditions are substantially identical. The state railway commission fails to see much in the proposition of Mr. McAdoo and comes back with a long communication which ends as follows: "The general unsettled condition of the freight rates in eastern trunk line territory and in the State of Nebraska in particular, and the exceedingly abnormal business conditions at the present time, leads us to the conclusion that this is not an opportune time to make radical changes in the class freight schedules, and we would therefore be opposed to an attempt at this time, to standardize class rates for the whole western territory."

A large silver trophy, given by the national Holstein-Friesan association, has become the permanent property of the University of Nebraska, according to the announcement of Prof. J. H. Frandsen, head of the dairy department of the college of agriculture. The trophy has been won four times by dairy judging teams of the Nebraska college of agriculture, or twice as often as it has been captured by any other institution.

The November 1 crop report issued by the Nebraska Board of Agriculture gives the state an average yield of 18 bushels of corn per acre, making the preliminary production estimate 133,056,000 bushels, compared to 249,480,000 bushels last year and the ten year average of 175 223,000 bushels.

At the auction sale of the First National bank stocks at Superior, the notes not paid brought over $1,000 and reports indicate another dividend to be paid, making about one-third all told to the depositors. This is the largest bank failure in southern Nebraska since about four years ago.

John Thompson who, it is alleged, twice within a month succeeded in cashing bogus checks on Fremont merchants, pleaded guilty in district court and was sentenced to serve one year in the state penitentiary.

Robert C. Channer, publisher of the Newman Grove Reporter for the past two years, and one of the town's foremost boosters, died suddenly last week. All Newman Grove mourns the loss of their esteemed citizen.

Governor-elect Samuel McKelvie has temporarily escaped the horde of office seekers, who swarmed to his headquarters at Lincoln the day after election, by leaving on a ten-days' business trip in the east.

The school at Shubert, Richardson county, has already had four weeks vacation, and now it is deemed expedient not to begin school for at least two more weeks on account of the influenza.

Walter W. Head, Omaha banker, has been appointed Nebraska chairman for the Red Cross Christmas membership drive, by Frank W. Judson, state director, who will manage the Central division campaign.

It is estimated that more than 150,000 persons participated in a peace demonstration at Omaha, following news that Germany had surrendered to the allies and the United States.

Scottsbluff sugar refineries fear they will have to close for lack of men to run the plants. They are appealing to Federal State Director George J. Kieffner, at Omaha, for help.

Norfolk has clamped the closing lid down again because of the second severe outbreak of influenza. Three deaths occurred from the disease in a single day last week.

An epidemic of influenza has broken out in the State Hospital for Insane at Norfolk. More than forty patients are isolated and several deaths have occurred.

Lincoln may be put on the coast to coast air mail route after the war, Assistant Postmaster General G. L. Connor has notified Mayor J. E. Miller.

Complete unofficial returns from the recent election in Douglas county indicate that only one democrat is elected state senator and one representative.

The Beatrice city commissioners have again put the ban on public gatherings, churches, clubs, etc., on account of the influenza.

Owing to an alrming spread of influenza, a rigid quarantine on gatherings of all kinds has been proclaimed at Broken Bow.

Pawnee county's service flag is now floating from a pole 60 feet high in Pawnee City. The flag bears 448 stars.

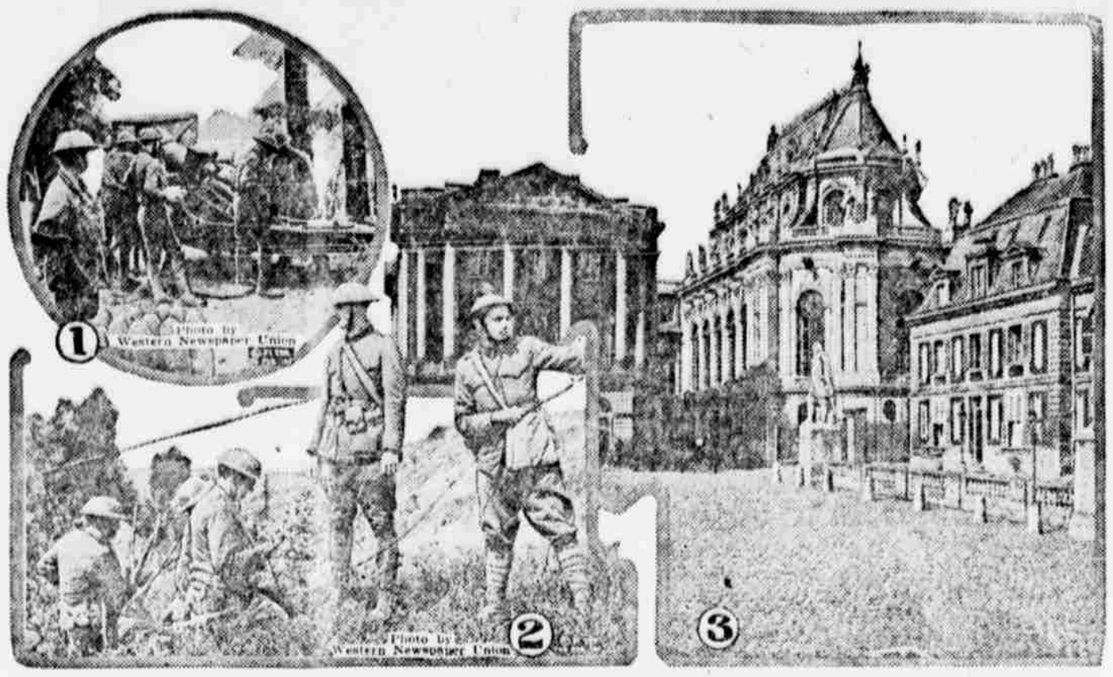
Gage county republicans elected every republican county officer at the recent election for the first time in many years.

Fifteen government physicians are fighting the "flu" epidemic in Nebraska, according to State Health authorities.

No Saturday school sessions will be held at Fremont, but Christmas vacation will be cut to one week and spring vacation will be eliminated, to make up for time lost by influenza quarantine.

Reports from Washington are to the effect that a mail airplane will pass over Nebraska in a few days on the first trans-continental flight from New York to San Francisco.

Operating officials of the railroads of Nebraska assert that there has never been a time when the roads faced winter better supplied with coal. What is true with reference to railroads storing coal applies as well to dealers in the towns. At no point is a shortage anticipated unless the winter should be unusually long and very severe.



1—American gun in Lorraine which the crew named "President Wilson's Answer." 2—American field signal men repairing a severed wire near Juvigny. 3—The palace of Versailles, where the inter-allied council met to fix the armistice terms for Germany.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE GREAT WAR

World's Conflict Brought to a Close by Virtual Surrender of Germany.

HUNS BEG ARMISTICE TERMS

Emissaries Go to Marshal Foch Bearing White Flag—While Conference Is Held Allied Armies Continue to Smash the Enemy.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The great war is virtually ended.

At the time of writing hostilities had not ceased, but the plenipotentiaries of Germany had crossed the lines to a point near Guise, bearing a white flag, and were there considering the armistice terms offered them by Marshal Foch. That they would be compelled to accept these terms was considered a foregone conclusion.

Though the terms of the armistice had not been made public, those granted to Austria and Turkey proved that Germany would be forced to accept terms that meant unconditional surrender, with all that implies. The allies were in a position to refuse to listen to anything short of that. President Wilson had notified the German high command that it would have to ask terms from Marshal Foch in the field, and in consequence Mathias Erzberger, General Winterfeld, Count von Oberndorff, General von Gruenell and Naval Captain von Salow carried the white flag to the generalissimo of the allies. Whether they were fully empowered to act for Germany was not stated, but it was supposed that if it were necessary to submit the terms to the reichstag, such action would be in the nature of a formality.

Thus, after four years and three months of terrible conflict, the great war, involving directly most of the nations of the globe, has come to a close with the utter defeat of Germany and her allies, the complete failure of the gigantic conspiracy to force upon the world the rule of militaristic autocracy.

At the expense of millions of lives and billions of treasure the reign of democracy has been established throughout the world. The price has not been too great, for the victorious nations, and perhaps some of the conquered, have been regenerated by the blood they have shed and the gold they have spent.

Her military front in the west collapsing, her home front breaking down, her people ready to revolt and her troops forming soviets after the fashion of the Russian bolsheviki, Germany had to give up the struggle. Had the army commanders had their way, probably the fighting would have been continued for a short time longer, though hopelessly. But the internal changes had actually given the people a power they never before had enjoyed, and they brought it to bear in a way that compelled the militarists to make a speedy peace. The revolt of the armed forces already had begun in Hamburg and Kiel and also in Schleswig, and it was reported that the revolutionists had gained control of the entire German fleet.

And now for the peace conference. The first question is the place where the momentous meeting shall be held. The United States offers Washington. Great Britain favors The Hague; France, Versailles; Italy, Geneva. All are supposed to favor Washington as second choice. If the conference should meet in our national capital, it is believed President Wilson will preside; if elsewhere, some other American, presumably Colonel House, will sit at the head of the table.

The allied governments have agreed that peace shall be based on the points enunciated by President Wilson, with two modifications which have been accepted by him. These are that reparation by Germany shall include compensation for all damage done to the civilian population of the allies and their property by the Germans by land, by sea, and from the air; and that the entente allies reserve to themselves complete freedom on the subject of the interpretation of the phrase "freedom of the seas." Information on this was sent to Berlin by Secretary Lansing in the same note that told the Huns to ask an armistice from Foch.

Prominent men of England and France, backed by the press of those countries, insist that the German military commanders and others who have been personally responsible for the brutalities and inhumanities of the war shall be brought personally to trial and punishment. The names of these wretches have been carefully compiled by the British and French and Belgians during the years of warfare, and if they are permitted to go unpunished there will be a general outburst of wrath. The individuals thus accused include the officials of the Krupp works, who were in conspiracy with the militarists to bring on the war.

What will happen to Kaiser Wilhelm is still on the laps of the gods. He is no longer a free agent, and there have been loud and persistent calls in the cities of Germany for his abdication. However, the German government, after long consultation with the leaders of all parties, decided that he should remain on the throne, at least for the present. The Socialists wanted to oust him as a symbol of the militaristic system that has brought disaster on Germany; but the other parties believed he should be retained as the symbol of the unity of the German empire, which is so threatened just now. That they have reason to fear the growing separatist movement is evidenced by the Munich journals, which openly advocate the separation of Bavaria from the empire.

The allied commanders in France and Belgium gave no sign that they knew armistice negotiations were under way and the end of the war at hand. Not for one second did they cease their furious attack on the armies of the Huns, and the result was that before the end of the week the latter were facing the most complete disaster that could overtake them. The fighting raged all along the front from Ghent, which was surrounded and taken by the British, Belgians and Americans, to the region north of Verdun, where the Americans were forging ahead despite fierce resistance and almost insurmountable difficulties of terrain. Between these points the French armies, assisted on each wing by their allies, were mighty busy in operations designed to complete the work of cutting off the retreat of the Hun armies in the great pocket between the Holland border and Metz. Between the Sambre and the Scheldt three British armies engaged twenty-five German divisions and utterly defeated them, inflicting terrible losses and compelling a general retreat. On their right, after taking Valenciennes, they drove ahead through the Mormal forest, captured Le Quesnoy, and almost reached Maubeuge. The Canadians, on the British left, made equally important advances.

After accomplishing the difficult crossing of the Sambre canal and then starting the Huns well on their way eastward, the French made one of the greatest leaps forward recorded during the war. Vervins, Montcornet and Rethel, all German strongholds, and innumerable towns and villages of less importance were taken and passed by the irresistible Poilus, with whom an Italian corps was operating, and clear down to the Meuse the enemy was in full flight. So fast did the Huns fall back and so close on their heels were the French that the Germans were compelled to abandon many guns and great stores of material, and their losses in prisoners were enormous.

Meanwhile the Yankees were carrying out their part of the big drive by smashing through the German lines on both sides of the Meuse, and by Thursday they had entered Sedan and were close to Montmedy, Mezieres and other important towns. The feat of the Americans in forcing the crossing of the Meuse river and canal south of Dun and the taking of that town was one of the most dashing of all the incidents of the whole war. The doughboys had to swim across the waterways under heavy machine-gun fire and to climb the steep banks of the canal with the aid of grappling hooks. Between the river and the canal they had to cross a stretch of mud land three-quarters of a mile wide. The engineers gallantly did their share, building pontoon and foot bridges and our troops, tired but jubilant, proceeded to chase the swiftly retreating Huns to the north and east. The principal lateral lines of communication between Metz and northern France and Belgium were thus cut.

Italy took full revenge for the defeat of Caporetto before the armistice with Austria went into effect on November 4. Though the submission of the Austrian commanders was a foregone conclusion, General Diaz didn't lose a moment waiting for it, but went swiftly ahead with the job of absolutely crushing the enemy forces. It is estimated that in that last offensive the Italians took about 500,000 prisoners, and that they hold fully a million Austrians in their prison camps. The value of the material captured in the recent weeks is put at $5,000,000,000, and it includes 200,000 horses and 6,000 guns. The collapse of the great Austrian army was complete, and the scenes in the redeemed Italian territory where thousands on thousands of prisoners were being moved were said to be reminiscent of the retreat of Napoleon from Moscow.

Of course the armistice terms granted the Austrians were most severe, and included in them was free passage of the allied armies through Austrian territory, with use of Austrian means of transportation. This meant the opening of the way to attack Germany from the south and to protect Roumania. Emperor Charles refused to sign these terms, so that was done by the Austrian chief of staff. There was some question as to who could represent the late dual kingdom, for it is all broken up now. Hungary, under the leadership of Count Karolyi, has made complete its separation from Austria and will hold a plebiscite on the question of being a kingdom or a republic. Really nothing is left to Charles except the German part of Austria, and that shows signs of joining the German confederation. The disposition of the peoples of southern middle Europe is going to be one of the most delicate and difficult problems the peace conferees will have to solve. If possible, it must be so solved that this region, for ages a hotbed of international troubles, will be satisfied and at peace.

All Italy went wild with joy over its great victory, and the various cities of Italia Irridenta, now redeemed, greeted with acclaim the occupying forces of Italian troops and the civilian authorities. Having conquered their ancient foe, the Italians displayed a remarkable spirit of forgiveness and treated the defeated Austrians with utmost generosity.

Russia remains the one field of conflict, and it is not conceivable that the fighting can be kept up there for very long. Siberia is pretty definitely under the control of the allies, the Czecho-Slovaks and loyal Russians, at least as far as lines of communication are concerned. The government of northern Russia has acknowledged the government set up at Omsk as supreme and the bolsheviki now find their main strength is confined to the Volga valley region. The soviets are still powerful in many places, but the terrible food conditions and the fear of the approaching winter are having their effect. Germany formally severed relations with the bolshevik government last week, and the latter asked the allies to open peace negotiations at a time and place of their own choosing. Since none of the allied governments ever recognized the bolshevik government, it is difficult to see how anything could come of this except the surrender of the bolsheviki to the establishment of decent and safe governmental conditions.

Finland is sore. Its people declare they were misled by the Germans and that a German king was thrust upon them without their desire. It would not be at all surprising if that king were forced to abdicate in the near future and if a republican form of government were inaugurated.

The imminence of the cessation of warfare caused General Crowder and his aids to consider seriously the suspension of the November draft call, under which more than 300,000 men have been ordered to army camps. This action seemed likely.

Trench Expert.

Senator Sheppard of Texas sat on the veranda of the Chevy Chase Golf club discussing prohibition and watching a poor player endeavoring to tee off.

After the poor player had made a half a dozen ineffectual swipes at the ball the senator's companion said:

"What the dickens is that fellow trying to do?"

"It looks to me," said Senator Sheppard, "as if he were trying to dig himself in."

Extremes.

Dixie, the French poodle, was barking noisily and wagging his tail at the same time.

"Oh," cried little Lucy, "Dixie is cross at one end and happy at the other."

Contrary Effect.

"People who gossip much are generally very narrow." "Yet they manage to spread a lot."

Hadn't Got Far.

"I hear you are learning to fly."

"No, I am merely studying it."—Pearson's Weekly.

Perhaps the German's sudden fondness for peace is born of his inability to make further war.